

III. REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-11, and 13-20 are pending in this application. By this amendment, claims 1, 4, 16, and 17 have been amended, and claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled. Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserve the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Further, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116(b) because the Amendment: (a) places the application in condition for allowance as discussed below; (b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration; and (c) places the application in better form for appeal. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Amendment.

In the Office Action, claims 3-5, 10, 11, and 13 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Applicants appreciate this indication, and have amended claims 1 and 16 herein accordingly, as discussed below.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6-9, and 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fluegge et al. (US Pat. No. 5,583, 797), and under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fluegge (*supra*) in view of Fukushima (US Pat. No. 6,113,341).

Turning first to claim 1, Applicants have herein amended claim 1 to incorporate the additional limitations, “a C-shaped rail” and “wherein the rotatable bearing is mounted to the C-shaped rail, and the rotatable bearing set is positioned in a first extremity of the C-shaped rail” (claim 1, lines 5-10). This amendment incorporates subject matter previously found in claims 2 and 3, which are cancelled herein. Because the subject matter (previously recited in claim 3) was

indicated “allowable” in the Office Action, Applicants accordingly respectfully request that the rejection to claim 1 be withdrawn. Pursuant to the amendment to claim 1, claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled herein, and claim 4 has been amended to provide improved clarity.

With respect to claims 6-9, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable for reasons stated above relative to independent claim 1, as well as for their own additional claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Office withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and/or 103(a) to claims 6-9.

With respect to claims 14 and 15, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 14 and 15 are allowable for reasons relative to independent claim 10, which was noted to contain allowable subject matter in the Office Action, as well as for their own additional claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Office withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and/or 103(a) to claims 14 and 15.

Turning to claim 16, Applicants have herein amended claim 16 to recite additional limitations similar in scope to those found in claims 1 and 10. Specifically, claim 16 as amended herein includes the features of “a test fixture including a C-shaped rail,” and “mounting the rotatable bearing set in a lower extremity of the C-shaped rail” (Claim 16, lines 2-6). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection to claim 16 be withdrawn. Pursuant to the amendment of claim 16, Applicants have also amended claim 17, to provide improved clarity.

Turning finally to claims 17-20, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 17-20 are allowable for reasons stated above relative to independent claim 16, as well as for their own additional claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Office withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and/or 103(a) to claims 17-20.

IV. CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the Application as presented is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Spencer K. Warnick/

Spencer K. Warnick
Reg. No. 40,398

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(JMT)

Hoffman, Warnick and D'Alessandro, LLC
75 State Street, 14th Floor
Albany, New York 12207
Phone: (518) 449-0044
Fax: (518) 449-0047